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Source, operational data, and comments:

Subject:

Kcuriger Party Given by State Secretary Kreisky for Leading Soviet Officials

Date of Info:

29 February 1956

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3

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REPORT NO. BAY-1257

INFORMATION REPORT

DATE DISTR. 14 March 1956

NO. OF ENCLS.
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

[illegible]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Well-placed in political circles (D)

1. On 29 February 1956, State Secretary Bruno Kreisky (SPÖ) invited members of the Soviet Embassy to a reception at Roda's in Grinsing. There were 25 Austrian guests including leading members of the Foreign Office and several high officials, Grand Admiral, Karl Czernitz, Otto Probst, and Kurt Mikulicz among others.

2. Practically all Soviets of diplomatic rank attended with the notable exception of the Ambassador, I. I. Delyagin. The explanation given for his absence was that Delyagin had been involved in an automobile accident in late January while returning from the Mozart Festival in Salzburg. He had suffered an injured leg and a broken wrist, which was reported to be healing slowly.

3. The entrance of the following Soviet nationals was reported:

Tyushchik's (phonetic), reported to be a new Counselor of Embassy and a replacement for S. A. Rudakov. He was given precedence over Il'yashenko in the seating and was accompanied by his wife.

- ✓ A. V. Kuchenko, ^{Soviet}Counselor of Embassy, And.
- ✓ " I. G. Golik, ^{Soviet}Consular representative and
- ✓ " M. P. Zubov, First Secretary, Soviet Emb. And.
- ✓ M. N. Fedallov, Intergovernmentalizer And.
- ✓ A. B. F. Lobodov, ^{Soviet}Interpreter And
- ✓ H. L. Vladislavov.

4. In reply to an observation by an Austrian official that the new Soviet line was probably a mere tactical maneuver, Timoshenko made the following statement in response:

The new Soviet policy is not a tactical improvisation. In the Russian people new forces have developed since the war, and they will continue to assert themselves. "The change in Soviet policy may be a "tactic"

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In the eyes of the West but it is certainly not viewed as such by the Russian people. Over a period of time the Russian people will identify the officials who were responsible for and promoted the Stalin program, and they will replace them with younger forces.³

5. Soviet officials let it be known in the course of the gathering that they did not find Austrian membership in the Council of Europe particularly desirable.

6. The evening was very official. The Socialists present joined the Soviets in singing revolutionary anthems such as "Boulder zur Sonne zur Freiheit." The only incongruous incident was when the Austrian musical entertainers broke into "Furberlar" from the American musical "Kiss Me, Kate," to the consternation of some of the Austrians present.

1 Source Comment. Khrushchev probably gave the party to soothe Soviet feelings following the Austrian decision to join the Council of Europe.

2 Field Comment. Probably Eugene Yegorshkin, who arrived in Vienna on 8 February 1956.

3 Source Comment. This was a daring expression of opinion to come from a Soviet official but particularly from Timoshenko, who has previously been most reserved and uncommittal in political discussions.

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